

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SANTO 03977 280333Z

73

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-04 SCCT-02 USSS-00 OPR-02 A-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 IO-14 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 DRC-01 /105 W  
----- 052309

O 280315Z SEP 74 ZFF-6  
FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1578  
INFO USUN NEW YORK NIACT IMMEDIATE 0239  
AMEMBASSY CARACAS NIACT IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTO DOMINGO 3977

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: ASEC  
SUBJECT: KIDNAPPING OF PAO BARBARA HUTCHINSON

REF : STATE 213642 (NOTAL)

1. INSTRUCTIONS REFTEL MUCH APPRECIATED.
2. DURING MY ONE-HOUR MEETING WITH PRESIDENT BALAGUER THIS EVENING AT 8:15 P.M. CONCERNING KIDNAPPING, AFTER I HAD MADE POINTS REFTEL, HE TOOK POSITION AS FOLLOWS:
  - A) HE EXPRESSED DEEP REGRET AT THIS DEED AGAINST "SRTA. BARBARA."
  - B) HE AGREED THAT THE FIRST PRIORITY SHOULD BE FOR PERSONAL SAFETY OF THE HOSTAGES. HE SAID IN THIS CONNECTION HE HAD INSTRUCTED THE POLICE TO SURROUND THE VENEZUELAN CONSULATE BUT TO AVOID PROVOCATIVE ACTIONS.
  - C) WITH REGARD TO TACTICS HE EMPHASIZED THAT THE MOST IMPORTANT POINT NOW WAS TO REMAIN CALM. IT WAS ADVISABLE, HE SAID, TO

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SANTO 03977 280333Z

LET TIME PASS SO THAT THE KIDNAPPERS COULD COOL OFF AND

REDUCE THEIR DEMANDS TO SOMETHING REASONABLE. HE REGARDED IT IMPORTANT NOT TO BECOME ALARMED OVER DEADLINES OR OTHER THREATS FROM THE KIDNAPPERS, FOR HE KNEW THEM TO BE BLUFFERS.

D) IN REPLY TO MY QUERY CONCERNING THE PROSPECTS FOR SUCCESSFUL NEGOTIATION, HE STATED THAT THAT WOULD DEPEND ON WHAT THE KIDNAPPERS ASKED FOR. (COMMENT: HE DID NOT THEREFORE RULE OUT SOME EVENTUAL DEAL.)

E) IN REPLY TO MY CONCERN WITH REGARD TO GETTING FOOD TO THE HOSTAGES HE INDICATED THAT THE EMBASSY COULD HAVE FOOD SENT TO BARBARA HUTCHINSON AND THAT EMBASSIES OF OTHER FOREIGN NATIONALS HELD HOSTAGE COULD DO LIKEWISE. BEARING IN MIND MY CONVERSATION WITH MSGR. POLANCO REPORTED SD 3976, I SUGGESTED DESIRABILITY OF HAVING POLANCO BRING FOOD IN FOR ALL HOSTAGES. PRESIDENT IMMEDIATELY GRASPED POINT THAT THIS WOULD BE HELPFUL IN EMPHASIZING HUMANITARIAN ASPECT AND IN AVOIDING APPEARANCE OF EMBASSY INVOLVEMENT WHICH WOULD ENCOURAGE CAPTORS. ALSO, APPEARANCE OF PRELATE WOULD BE ENCOURAGING TO BARBARA AND OTHER HOSTAGES. PRESIDENT WRYLY SUGGESTED THAT FOOD BE OF TYPE ATTRACTIVE SPECIFICALLY TO NON-DOMINICAN HOSTAGES ("PERHAPS KIDNAPPERS WOULDN'T LIKE IT") AND BE JUST SUFFICIENT FOR ONE MEAL.

3. THE PRESIDENT, WHATEVER HIS UNDERLYING EMOTIONS WERE, SHOWED REMARKABLE COOLNESS AND CONTROL. HE IS OBVIOUSLY SEEKING PLAY OUT DEALINGS WITH KIDNAPPERS IN EFFORT WEAR THEM DOWN.

4. I HAVE COORDINATED WITH SPANISH AND VENEZUELAN COLLEAGUES AS WELL AS WITH MSGR. POLANCO WHO HAS AGREED TO DELIVER FOOD WHICH ALL THREE OF US ARE PROVIDING.  
HURWITCH

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 SEP 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** izenbei0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974SANTO03977  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740274-0118  
**From:** SANTO DOMINGO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t1974095/aaaaadpy.tel  
**Line Count:** 93  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** STATE 213642 (NOTAL)  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** izenbei0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 02 JUL 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <02 JUL 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <07 MAR 2003 by izenbei0>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** KIDNAPPING OF PAO BARBARA HUTCHINSON  
**TAGS:** ASEC  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005